



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

July 2019

The Municipal EcoLink is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). We respectfully request that the following is electronically distributed or otherwise made available to your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well. You may read past issues at [The Municipal EcoLink](#)

Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund

The NHDES Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF) will hold a public hearing on the Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Intended Use Plan (IUP) and Project Priority List (PPL), which describes how NHDES intends to use the available Drinking Water Revolving Loan Funds to meet the objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act and further the goal of protecting public health. The hearings will be held in Rooms 112-113 of the NHDES Building, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH, on Thursday, August 1, 2019. The hearings will open at 9 a.m. and remain in session until all attendees have been given an opportunity to provide comments. The Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund hearing will be held first, followed immediately by the DWSRF hearing and the State Aid Grant Program for Water Pollution Control hearing. Copies of the draft PPL and IUP are posted at <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/capacity/dwsrf.htm>. For questions contact Johnna McKenna at (603) 271-7017 or Johnna.mckenna@des.nh.gov.

Wetlands Rules Training

The new wetlands rules have been adopted and are scheduled to be effective on December 15, 2019. NHDES trainings will be held on September 26 in Concord, October 10 at the Pease office, and October 16 in Concord. In cooperation with several stakeholders (including the NH Association of Conservation Commissions and the NH Municipal Association), NHDES will also be providing several overview sessions. Information on the content of the trainings, timeframes and online registration will be posted on the [Wetlands Bureau webpage](#) in the near future.

Summer Energy & Climate Institute 2019

The [Vermont Energy Education Program](#) (VEEP) and its affiliate, the [NH Energy Education Project](#) (NHEEP) will hold a week-long summer institute for teachers to deeply explore climate and energy systems through investigations, project-based learning, academically productive discussion, and action. This institute is designed to help teachers add student-centered projects to their toolkit while they develop their curriculum and instructional practices. For more information, read the full announcement: <http://veep.org/teacher-resources/teacher-training/summer-institutes/>

Local Source Water Protection Grant

2020 Local Source Water Protection Grant applications are available now and due November 1, 2019. Find more information along with the application packet at https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp_grants.htm

Asset Management Workshop

NHDES is hosting its 6th Annual Asset Management Workshop "Strategic Communication" at the NH National Guard Facility, Edward Cross Training Complex, 722 Riverwood Drive, Pembroke, NH, on October 2, 2019. This workshop will provide water, wastewater and stormwater operators and managers with means and methods on how to leverage asset management programs to maximize interactions with internal and external stakeholders. There will be ample opportunity to discuss your ideas and network during the breakout sessions throughout the day. Forms and information are at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/categories/training.htm>

Financial Assistance for Heating Oil Tank Replacements

NHDES is looking to increase awareness of the [Safetank program](#) among NH cities and towns. This nearly 20-year-old program provides eligible homeowners assistance of up to \$2,250 for the replacement of an aboveground heating oil tank if they meet the definition of "low-income" by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Page 5 of the [Safetank application](#) contains the current income eligibility requirements. Please keep this program in mind for residents of your communities who may need the assistance. For more information please contact: Genevieve Al-Egaily at Genevieve.Al-Egaily@des.nh.gov, (603) 271-3577 or Erik Paddleford at Erik.Paddleford@des.nh.gov, (603) 271-3431.

Free Bi-State Electric Vehicle (EV) Connector Event, September 27

The Granite State & Vermont Clean Cities Coalitions are co-hosting the “Bi-State EV Connector” event on Friday, September 27, 2019, from 9 am – 3 pm, at Hypertherm, 71 Heater Road in Lebanon, NH. Calling all Fleet Managers, State and Municipal Representatives, Energy and Sustainability Committees, Business Owners and Workplace Employees! Are you interested in electric vehicles, technology and equipment? Are you considering customer, fleet and/or workplace charging? You are invited to this FREE event showcasing light-, medium- and heavy-duty electric vehicle ride-and-drives, technology displays, equipment demonstrations, speaker panels and more. Space is limited, register today at: <https://www.granitestatecleancities.nh.gov/documents/registration-and-sponsorship.pdf>

Annual Facility Reports for Solid Waste Facilities – Mid-Way through 2019

The Solid Waste Management Bureau (SWMB) at NHDES would like to remind you that each year all solid waste facilities must submit an Annual Facility Report (AFR) including for inactive facilities (i.e. closed landfills). We are a little bit more than halfway through 2019 and ALL facilities should be keeping data to complete their 2019 AFR, which is required to be submitted by March 31, 2020. Additionally, the SWOT Program will host two mini-work sessions for those that would like assistance filling out their AFRs. These sessions will be held on January 15, 2020, so mark your calendar. For more information on these sessions, please contact Tara Mae Albert at tara.albert@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-3713.

NHDES Subsurface e-Permitting Now Accepts eChecks

In May, a new option went into effect for registered users of the Subsurface e-Permitting system: payment by electronic check (eCheck) and a redesigned payment page. The eCheck option has no service fee. When using the credit card payment option, application fees over \$1,200 will incur an additional 2.49% service fee. For the largest subdivision applications, the payment options will be limited to paper check, money order or voucher. If you have questions after using the new payment page, please contact the Subsurface System Bureau at (603) 271-3501.

Asbestos Inspection and Abatement – Notice to Town when issuing a Building Renovation and Demolition Permit

A reminder to all towns and municipalities of the necessity for building owners and their contractors to have an asbestos inspection prior to any renovation/demolition. With the spring construction season here, homeowners and contractors will be applying for building permits. Please direct them to NHDES for guidance on their projects. For information on asbestos requirements contact NHDES at (603) 271-1373, or visit the Asbestos Program webpage at <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/cb/ceps/ams/index.htm>

Emergency Generators - NHDES Approvals and Installation Requirements

Any facility installing an emergency electrical generator with an aboveground petroleum storage tank (AST) having a capacity of more than 660 gallons must submit an AST application to the Waste Management Division of NHDES for construction approval a minimum of 45 days prior to installation. This is true whether the AST forms an integral part of the generator enclosure or is free standing. It is unlawful to install and to operate such an emergency generator or AST without prior NHDES approval. NHDES is stepping up enforcement of the AST laws and will seek to impose fines against those who illegally install and operate an emergency generator having an AST capacity of more than 660 gallons, in accordance with the NHDES Compliance Assurance Response Policy. For more information on the AST application and approval process, please contact Charles Corliss at (603) 271-6058 or visit the “Aboveground Storage Tank” program on the NHDES website at

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/orcb/ocs/astp/index.htm>

NHDES Facebook Page

NHDES has an official [Facebook Page](#). The page will be used to post information about NHDES events, trainings, workshops, publications, and more. Please take the time to check out the new page and “Like” us to stay updated on new content. You can also find us on Twitter (@NHDES) and YouTube. If you have any questions or suggestions for content, please contact us at socialmedia@des.nh.gov

Please send your comments for the editor to editor@des.nh.gov

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